United Nations A/C.3/62/L.12

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 October 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Third Committee
Agenda item 106
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Italy: draft resolution

Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,

Recalling also its resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling further its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the World Summit Outcome, in particular the sections on terrorism and transnational crime,

Affirming Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 of 25 July 2007 and 2007/19 of 26 July 2007 on the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which is aimed at, inter alia, making the Office more results-oriented and enhancing its effectiveness and flexibility in responding to the growing demand for technical assistance and policy services, translating that vision into a platform for action and facilitating the alignment of resources to achieve the desired results,

Recalling section IX of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body", by which the Commission, as the principal policymaking body on crime prevention and criminal justice issues, was given the authority to approve the budget of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund,

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Recalling also its resolution 61/209 of 20 December 2006 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[1]

Reaffirming its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[2] the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international conventions and protocols against terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[3] which entered into force on 7 July 2007,

Reaffirming also the commitment undertaken by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[4] to take urgent action to prevent and counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Bearing in mind its resolution 61/180 of 20 December 2006 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and the specific role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this respect,

Welcoming the launch of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking and the planned Vienna Forum, aiming to raise awareness and foster international cooperation and global partnerships to effectively address the issue of human trafficking, in accordance with decision 16/1 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[5]

Taking into consideration all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2007/20, 2007/21, 2007/22, 2007/23 and 2007/24 of 26 July 2007, and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance, in particular in Africa,

Emphasizing that its resolution 61/143 of 19 December 2006 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women has important implications for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and its activities,

Recalling the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[6]

Recognizing that action against global crime is a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to prevent and combat

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[1] Resolution 58/4, annex.

[2] Resolution 55/25, annexes I-III, and resolution 55/255, annex.

[3] Resolution 59/290, annex.

[4] Resolution 60/288.

[5] See E/2007/30-E/CN.15/2007/17, chap. I, sect. D.

[6] Resolution 60/177, annex.

transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/181;[7]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice and of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices;

3. *Recognizes* the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of trafficking in human beings, including the support and protection of victims, corruption, organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism and international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance as well as efforts undertaken in implementing the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa, in order to reduce the impact of crime and drugs as impediments to security and development in Africa;

4. *Welcomes* the outcome of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice's reconvened sixteenth session in November 2007 that approved the budget of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund for the biennium 2008-2009;

5. *Invites* Member States to identify local best practices in combating trafficking in persons and to share their findings with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further assist it in its efforts to combat the global threat of human trafficking, and encourages States to participate in and support events organized in the framework of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* Economic and Social Council decision 2007/253 of 26 July 2007, according to which the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its seventeenth session in April 2008, would hold a thematic discussion on the aspects of violence against women that pertain directly to the Commission, and which encourages Member States to be appropriately represented and to actively participate in the thematic debate;

7. *Draws attention* to the emerging policy issues identified in the Secretary-General's report,[7] inter alia, urban crime, child sexual exploitation, fraud and identity theft, international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, and invites the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to explore, within its mandate, ways and means of addressing these issues;

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[7] A/62/126.

8. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national and regional strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures to support and complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in effectively addressing transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, as well as corruption and terrorism;

9. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the Protocols thereto,[2] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[1] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and encourages States parties to continue to provide full support to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[3] and through capacity-building in the legal and related aspects of counter-terrorism, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, and to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[4] and invites Member States to consider increasing the level of extrabudgetary and regular budget resources for implementing the counter-terrorism work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

11. *Encourages* Member States to take all appropriate measures to ensure the full use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including by striving for the widest possible dissemination of these standards and norms to relevant practitioners, the translation of the standards and norms into national languages, the drafting or revision of relevant national legislation in line with the standards and norms and the provision of training to criminal justice officials in the implementation of the standards, including by employing existing manuals, handbooks and model legislation developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

12. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with the high priority accorded to it and in accordance with the increasing demand for its services, in particular with regard to the provision of increased assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and those countries emerging from conflict, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.